

Irish Hotel, Manor House Chosen; Deposits Due For Spring Trip

By RALPH GARDNER

The deadline is approaching for deposits to reserve space on the OPC's trip to Ireland next June.

Members and their guests will enjoy the hospitality and charm of the historic Shelbourne Hotel—among Dublin's most luxurious—and the Adare Manor, a centuries-old castle on a 100-acre estate in County Limerick on Ireland's scenic West Coast.

We depart New York's JFK on Aer Lingus on Monday, June 3, and return Tuesday, June 11.

The total cost per person is \$1,875. This includes air and ground transportation, hotels (double occupancy), full Irish breakfast, sight-seeing, a performance at the Abbey Theatre, an evening of traditional Irish cabaret, a farewell banquet, administrative costs and much more.

For overseas members who handle their own air travel and join the tour in Dublin, the price is \$1,400. Our hotel and transportation arrangements are being managed by the Ward Travel Agency.

Last month's *OPC Bulletin* described a partial schedule of VIP receptions and events. More are being arranged and there will be ample free time.

Members of the group will be able to interview top Irish personalities in all fields. Photo opportunities can be arranged. For OPCers who publish or broadcast reports of this trip, all or part of their cost is tax-deductible.

Under the heading "Major Events in 1991," an article in a recent travel supplement to *The New York Times* stated: "Much attention will focus on Dublin, Europe's designated Cultural Capital. Major art exhibitions are planned



Conversation and ale at Nesbitt & Doheny's famous pub near the Shelbourne Hotel. —Photo Irish Tourist Board

as well as music festivals, scientific and literary gatherings."

The Times commented: "Dubliners enthusiastically prefer living there to any other place on earth. To meet them and find out why they are so fond of their city (and fond of talking about it), spend some time in a pub."

Our group must be limited to 40 travelers, so you must reserve now by sending your deposit of \$300 per person. This is refundable until January 31 less a \$30 cancellation fee deducted. The balance will be due in mid-February.

Your deposits are necessary now because the OPC must make early payments to assure these low rates and top accommodations.

Make all checks payable to: Overseas Press Club (Ireland Trip). Send them to Mary Novick, Overseas Press Club, 310 Madison Ave., Suite 2118, New York, N.Y. 10017.

For further information phone Past President Len Saffir, trip coordinator, at 212-362-7099, or Ralph Gardner at 212-877-6820. Do not phone the OPC office for trip information.

OPC Calendar

Events at 3 W. 51st St. unless noted.

Event reservations 212-983-4655

Lodging and meal reservations 212-582-5454

Soviet Experts Speak Dec. 5

Wednesday, Dec. 5, 5:30 p.m. Future of the USSR Panel with Nicholas Daniloff, former Moscow correspondent jailed by the Soviets; **Peter Galuszka**, *Business Week*; **Marshall T. Goldman**, Harvard; **Melor Sturua**, former *Izvestia* columnist. (Vitaly Korotich, originally scheduled, is unavailable.) Reservations.

Thursday, Dec. 13, 5:30 p.m. Annual Holiday Party. Bring to the party small gifts for Santa's pack. \$17.50. Reservations.

Tuesday, Jan. 15, Noon. OPC 1991 Keynote Lunch with Andy Rooney. Reservations.

Tuesday, Jan. 22, 5:30 p.m. Board of Governors.

Thursday, Jan. 24. All-Club Mixer. Meet the people who share 3 W. 51st St.— Squadron A, The Lambs, OPC, and the Virginia Club. Music and dancing, buffet dinner, sing-a-long in the Solarium. Open bar. \$35. For information: Jamie Parilla, Women's National Republican Club, 212-532-5454.

Tuesday, April 23. Annual Awards Dinner, Grand Hyatt.

'91 Annual Awards Dinner Set April 23

Reserve this date for 1991:

The annual black tie awards dinner will be held April 23 at 6 p.m. at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, Lexington Avenue and 42nd Street, Manhattan. Formal invitations go into the mail early in the year. Anita Diamant is chairman of the dinner at which OPC awards in 16 categories are presented. Allan Dodds Frank is chairman of the awards committee.

Overseas Committee

In the October issue, the *OPC Bulletin* missed naming three members of the Overseas Committee.

They are Al Cullison, *Journal of Commerce* reporter in Tokyo; Ken Whiting, AP in Singapore; and Frances Hanna, Acacia House Publishing Services in Toronto. They have been members of the committee since it was established two years ago.

Overseas Press Club of America, Inc.
310 Madison Avenue, Suite 2116
New York, New York 10017 USA
Office 212-983-4655

OPC Holiday Fête Thursday, Dec. 13

Three W. 51st St. will be transformed into a Winter Wonderland for OPC's Annual Holiday Party from 5:30-8 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 13.

A cabaret atmosphere will be created by Sharon Powers, who has sung with the Gregg Smith Singers and Norman Luboff Choir.

She will be accompanied by noted pianist and composer David Lahm. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be offered, plus the traditional gift raffle.

Members are welcome to invite business associates and friends for the party which, weather permitting, will overflow from the ninth floor Solarium onto the balcony overlooking St. Patrick's Cathedral and Rockefeller Center.

Members are asked to bring to the party small gifts that will be raffled to their colleagues. The cost is \$17.50 for members and guests. Make reservations early by telephoning 212-983-4655.

OPC Bulletin

Overseas Press Club of America
3 W. 51st St., New York, N.Y.
December 1990



Members surround panelists in shadow of St. Patrick's Cathedral. From left, Joseph B. Treaster, *New York Times*; William J. Small, Fordham University; Charlayne Hunter-Gault, PBS; and Martin A. Lee, FAIR.

Panel Looks Inside Gulf Coverage

Correspondents described harrowing conditions reporting the Gulf Crisis and debated the quality of coverage from Washington in a Nov. 8 OPC panel.

At the sold-out luncheon at 3 W. 51st St., Joseph B. Treaster of *The New York Times*, one of the first reporters in Iraq, said correspondents faced "constant low to medium grade intimidation and harassment, all against the background of 1,000 males of all nationalities already held as hostages."

PBS's Charlayne Hunter-Gault said getting into Iraq was as hard as following U.S. troops into Granada. Once in Baghdad, she said "media handlers" were constantly molding their translations of interviews to suit government policy.

And she said she knew it was time to leave when during an interview a government spokesman said the "men will stay" and the camera operated by her all-male crew began to shake.

The third member of the panel, which was moderated by William J. Small, former head of UPI and NBC News and professor at the Fordham University Graduate School of Business, was media critic Martin A. Lee, co-founder of FAIR (Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting) and co-author of the just-published *Unreliable Sources: A Guide To Detecting Bias In News Media*.

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Rooney Keynotes On Jan. 15

Andy Rooney, the tart tongued commentator for CBS' *60 Minutes*, will offer his perspective of world affairs at the OPC's 1991 Keynote Lunch on Jan. 15.

Rooney's essays on *60 Minutes* range over many fields, but he has been asked to comment on international issues in appearing at the OPC lunch, the first major event on the 1991 calendar. It will be held at noon Jan. 15 at 3 W. 51st St.

Reservations may be made by calling Mary Novick, club manager, at 212-983-4655, or by mail to Overseas Press Club, Suite 2116, 310 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017. With mail reservations please include checks covering the \$30 per person cost.

Rooney was a correspondent for *Stars & Stripes*, the military newspaper, during World War II. He was one of seven WW II correspondents who spoke at the 1989 reunion sponsored by the club.

The 1990-91 season marks his 13th on the weekly magazine series *60 Minutes*. His unique reports, "A Few Minutes With Andy Rooney," became a regular feature in September 1978.

The Soviet Union's future is the subject of distinguished panelists Dec. 5. See OPC Calendar, p. 6.

Who's doing what, when,

By AL KAFF and RALPH GARDNER

OPC Award Winner Bassow Rolling In Russian Rubles

OPC'er Whitman Bassow's best-seller (and winner of the Overseas Press Club Award for Best Book on Foreign Affairs), *The Moscow Correspondents*, was excerpted in the May issue of the Soviet foreign affairs journal *International Life*. The editor of the publication, issued by the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, advised Dr. Bassow that they could not pay his fee in dollars, but cash is waiting for him at the ministry—rubles, that is. He was told that other prominent U.S. authors, including Ronald Reagan and Henry Kissinger, are in the same boat.

Past Pres. John Wilhelm Mending After Tokyo Fall

Former OPC president John Wilhelm is recuperating at his Maryland retirement home. John, dean emeritus of the Ohio University journalism school, fell while vacationing with his wife Peggy in Tokyo. While there, they were guests aboard the yacht Trump Princess, with their son Dick, who is vice president and general manager of the Plaza Hotel in New York. Address: 10450 Lottsford Rd., #1111, Mitchellville, Md. 20721.

Times' Flora Lewis Retiring; Leslie Gelb New Columnist

Flora Lewis retires Dec. 31 as *New York Times* foreign affairs columnist, a position that will be filled by Leslie H. Gelb. Lewis will continue as senior columnist and contribute periodic commentary. She joined *The Times* in 1972 as Paris bureau



Inaugurating OPC's new quarters at 3 W. 51st St. are Tribune Owl and, from left, Sol Zatt, Helen Lambron, H. L. Stevenson. —Photo Fred Ferguson

chief after covering Europe for the *Washington Post* and Associated Press.

Gelb, 53, is now deputy editorial page editor and Op-ed page editor. That post will be filled by Mitchel R. Levitas, who was metropolitan editor and head of the *Book Review* and *The Week In Review*.

Al Kaff's Book On Crash Published In Japan

Written by OPC'er Al Kaff and Cornell University Finance Professor Avner Arbel, *Crash: Ten Days in October... Will It Strike Again?* (Longman, 1989), was published in October by Kodansha of Tokyo. Describing structural weaknesses in financial markets that triggered the 1987 world stock market crash, the English edition has sold about 20,000 copies in the U.S., Canada, and Britain

Asia Hand Peter Kann Is New CEO Of Dow Jones

Asia hand Peter Kann, president and chief operating officer of Dow Jones & Co., publishers of the *Wall Street Journal*, will become chief executive officer on Jan. 1 when Warren H. Phillips, cur-

OPCBulletin

The Overseas Press Club Bulletin (ISSN-0738-7202) is published monthly, except August, for \$24 per year to members, included in dues. Copyright © 1990 by the Overseas Press Club of America. Editor: John Polich. Associate Editors: Susan Baxter, Fred Ferguson, Maria Ferris, Ralph Gardner, Al Kaff, Meyer Lurie, Charles Sweeting. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Overseas Press Club, 310 Madison Ave., Suite 2116, New York, N.Y. 10017.

here, there, everywhere

rent chairman and CEO, retires. Kann covered the Vietnamese War and won the 1972 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting for his dispatches from the India-Pakistan War. In 1976 he became the founding publisher and editor of *The Asian Wall Street Journal*.

Robert Sherrod Wartime Volume Back In Print

Veteran OPC'er Robert Sherrod, who covered World War II in the Pacific for *Time* and *Life* magazines, advises that his 1945 book *On To Westward; The Battles of Saipan and Iwo Jima* has been reissued by Nautical and Aviation Publishing (\$19.95, 101 E. Read St., Suite 314, Baltimore, Md. 21201. Book reviewers contact Claire Acey, 301-659-0220.

Sherrod, who now lives in Washington, wrote the text for *Life's Picture History of World War II* and *Tarawa*, a best-seller in 1944.

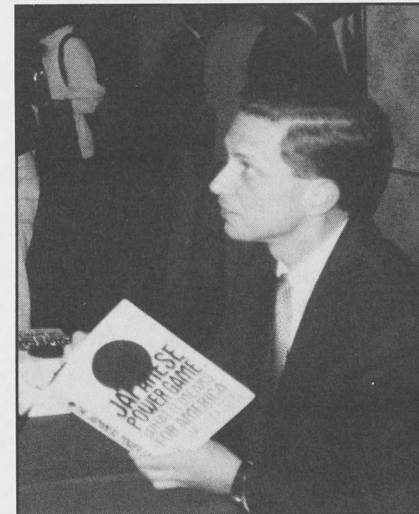
Committees Named

Norman Schorr, the club's treasurer, agreed to head the Freedom of the Press committee once more.

Members are John "Rick" MacArthur, Charles Brophy, Alfred Balk, and Victor Riesel.

Schorr said the committee continues to monitor press restraints throughout the world and is working in tandem with groups such as the Committee to Protect Journalists and the World Press Freedom Committee.

The Admissions Committee will be headed by George Bookman. Members are Elinor Griest and Dwight Sargent.



Bill Holstein autographs his new book *Japanese Power Game: What It Means For America* at October panel co-hosted by OPC and Asia Society. —Photo Fred Ferguson

Marine Bill Henderson Working From Home Front

Marine CWO Bill Henderson, former OPC alternate governor, transferred to the Marine depot in Albany, Ga. some months ago— a quiet assignment as he prepares to retire. But Albany is a major supply point for the U.S. buildup in the Middle East, and it has been hectic.

M. Dan Morris Elected To Engineering Council

M. Dan Morris has been elected president of the New York State Council, American Society of Civil Engineers. He is past president of the Ithaca Press Club, and recently published an article on the 50th Anniversary of the Cornell-Dartmouth "5th Down Football game."

Gardner's Horatio Alger In 4th Reissue Since '64

OPC VP Ralph Gardner's first book, *Horatio Alger; or The American Hero*, a 1964 biography of the 19th Century author of success stories, was published in October, it's fourth reissue (\$25, American Publishing, P.O. Box 1200, Mattituck, N.Y. 11952. Book reviewers contact Jed Clauss 516-298-9476.

OPC'er Enrique Rojas Vela Visited New York In Fall

Enrique Rojas Vela was in New York for a month. Rojas Vela said he recently lost his "beloved Lucrecia in Buenos Aires, after 52 years of happy marriage."

Kenneth Gilmore, Editor Of Reader's Digest, Retires

Readers Digest announced the retirement Dec. 31 of OPC'er Kenneth Gilmore as editor-in-chief. Gilmore, who joined the *Digest* in Washington in 1957, is retiring for health reasons.

OPCers Make News

Share with us reports of your assignments, projects, travels, books, awards, personal activities. Your fellow members want to know. Please include a photograph with your note.

Overseas members: Send items to Al Kaff, Cornell University News Service, 840 Hanshaw Road, Ithaca, New York 14850-1548, USA.

Domestic members: Drop a note or clip to Ralph Gardner, OPC Bulletin, Suite 2116, 310 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017.

OPC Protests Kenyan Policy Toward Nairobi Law Monthly

OPC on behalf of its members throughout the world has requested an end to "harassment and other pressures" by the government of Kenya against the *Nairobi Law Monthly* and its staff, including editor Gitobu Imanyara.

Imanyara was accepted as a new member of the OPC last month.

The protest was made in a letter from Norman A. Schorr, chairman of the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee, to Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi.

Schorr said the *Nairobi Law Monthly* was banned by an order from the attorney general issued on September 28, 1990. The Kenyan High Court allowed the magazine to appeal the ban and resume operations. However, a few weeks later, the attorney general filed a motion that the ban be reversed.

The attorney general has sought the arrest of Pheroze Nowrojee, a prominent lawyer who represents the *Nairobi Law Monthly* and the magazine's editor on several charges, Schorr said.

Gulf Panel

Continued from p. 1

Lee complained that most Washington reporters explicitly or implicitly characterized Iraqi statements as propaganda, while accepting without scrutiny the words of U.S. spokesmen. And he said offers from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to negotiate should receive greater coverage, regardless of whether they turn out to be sincere or simply manipulative.

Both Hunter-Gault and Treaster said they were in the Gulf during the early days of the crisis, not in Washington, and so couldn't respond directly to Lee's charge. But Hunter-Gault said she somewhat agreed with the criticism.

Treaster added, "Sometimes... we leap in with a sense of righteous Americans and it takes a few days or weeks" to gain perspective.

Gilbert Baker, 86

By DWIGHT E. SARGENT

Gil Baker was a special person, personally and professionally. His personality shone with an engaging wit, an intrinsic wisdom, and an enduring warmth. His career embraced challenging positions with *The Wall Street Journal*, United Press and other journalistic institutions, and public relations and finance.

Gil died Oct. 21 at the age of 86 in his New York home. He was a loyal member of OPC, an association he cherished. His presence at OPC gatherings lent a radiance because of the sparkle of his conversation, the inspiration of his intellect and the genuineness of his devotion to a large circle of friends. Gil was sui generis—in a class by himself.

Gilbert Harlow Baker was born in Nova Scotia, the son of a Baptist minister. He was graduated from Union College where he prepared not only in the classroom but by working for 3 1/2 years for the *Schenectady Gazette*. Six years in *Wall Street Journal* posts was capped by assistant manager of its Montreal bureau.

He developed skill in one of journalism's most difficult fields, writ-

ing with clarity about economics and related subjects. The *Journal of Commerce* hired him and then the New York bureau of United Press, where he edited the night financial wire. Then he went to Washington to cover some of the biggest financial stories in the nation.

Gil Baker did not wear these achievements on his sleeve. His was innately modest, but he had the integrity and self-confidence to see himself for what he was, a dedicated and responsible editor.

Robert Misch, 84

Robert Jay Misch, a leading authority on food and wine and OPC's wine consultant, died Nov. 7.

The long-time OPC member was former chairman of Wine Writer's Circle. His weekly syndicated column, "Wine Wise," appears widely in daily newspapers. His articles appeared in *Wines & Vines*, *Taste*, and *Quarterly Review of Wines*. His column "Slices from the Big Apple" was a monthly feature for the *Van Kriedt California Wineletter*.

Misch's books include *Famous Recipes*, *Foreign Dining Dictionary*, *Quick Guide To Wine*, and *Duffy's Revised Official Mixer's Manual*.

Wambly Bald, 83

Wambly Bald, who for five years was a columnist for the Paris edition of the *Chicago Tribune*, died Oct. 19 in New York.

Bald, 83, joined the OPC in 1940, a year after its founding. He worked for the *New York Post* and *New York Journal-American* and as a free-lancer after returning to the U.S. He did publicity for the 1939 New York World's Fair.